

**Regular Session Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting
Selectmen’s Meeting Room, Town Hall
Monday, December 7, 2015, 7:15 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mark Siegenthaler, Chair; Caroline Fedele; William S. Moonan (arrived at 7:30 p.m.); Margot Fleischman; Michael A. Rosenberg and Town Manager Richard T. Reed

ALSO PRESENT: Patriotic Holiday Committee member Joseph Piantedosi; Energy Task Force members Suzy Enos, Mark Mullins and Aubrey Jaffer; Melinda Ballou; Randi Currier; Houghton Weston; Gayatri Yadavalli; Dan and Renu Bostwick; Janet Powers; Sarah Lance; Terry Gleason; Alan Bragg; S. Carlough Faulkner; Bill and Marie Ryder; Judi Curcio; CDR Maguire Architect Fabrizio Caruso; Donham and Sweeney President Jeffery Shaw; Planning Board members Jeff Cohen and Amy Lloyd; Finance Director Victor Garofalo; Facilities Director Taissir Alani; Ben Thomas, Finance Committee; Press Representatives Martha Wood and Debra Parkhurst; Brian Dorrington, Bedford TV

Chair Siegenthaler called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

16-117 Deed for Conservation Land at 340A Concord Road - Acceptance

The Selectmen previously authorized the acquisition of 0.8 acres of conservation land at 340A Concord Road from John and Patricia Kelley. The land abuts other conservation land and is bordered on the north by the reformatory branch trail which could help the expansion project of the Minuteman Bikeway. The Conservation Commission voted to approve the Deed at their meeting on December 2, 2015. The cost of the acquisition is \$70,000.

Ms. Fleischman moved to accept the deed for conservation land at 340A Concord Road. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0.

16-118 Bedford Crossing Easement Amendments - Acceptance

Amendments H and I would transfer responsibility of maintaining the grounds of 54 Loomis Street from the Town to the owners of the property. This would allow for uniform landscape maintenance since the owners are constructing a mixed-use development of retail space and condominiums. The Town was originally granted easements on the property for the purpose of establishing a sidewalk and picnic area at Depot Park as well as improving connections from the Minuteman Bikeway to the Narrow Gauge Rail Trail.

Mr. Rosenberg moved that the Selectmen accept the proposed easement amendments H and I from Loomis Street Development LLC. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0.

**16-119 Patriotic Holiday Committee Charge
Proposed Amendment**

Patriotic Holiday Committee (PHC) Vice-Chair Joseph Piantedosi presented the Selectmen with an updated PHC charge. The major changes are in the membership section. The proposed change would make the Hanscom Air Force Base member a non-voting liaison. There will be a total of nine voting members with seven at-large members and one representative from both the American Legion and VFW.

The other change would allow the PHC to provide input and recommendations to the Town Manager and Selectmen regarding any proposed changes to Veteran's Memorial Park to ensure that any changes would be in keeping with the intent and long-term plans of the park.

Mr. Rosenberg moved to approve the updated Patriotic Holiday Committee Charge. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Moonan arrived at 7:30 p.m.

**16-127 Miscellaneous Action Item
Chapter 268A, Section 20(b) Exemptions
One Day Special Alcohol License
Home Rule Petition for Additional On-Premise Alcohol Licenses**

**Chapter 268A, Section 20(b) Exemptions
Ryan Barnes – Lifeguard to Kids' Club Group Leader
Tobin Hart – Summer Adventures Counselor to Basketball Referee**

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to approve the waiver from Chapter 268A Section 20(b) exemptions for Ryan Barnes and Tobin Hart. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

**One Day Special Alcohol License
St. Paul's Episcopal Church – December 12, 2015**

Ms. Fleischman made a motion to approve a One Day Special Alcohol License for St. Paul's Episcopal Church for an event on December 12, 2015. Ms. Fedele seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

**Home Rule Petition for Additional On-Premise Alcohol Licenses
Acceptance of Proposed Legislative Amendments**

Mr. Reed explained that the previous amendment which the Selectmen approved at the November 16, 2015 meeting has been further amended and is similar to what was originally submitted to the legislature. It eliminated the language that the State House of Representatives added which placed a three year restriction on the reissuing of a license. The State Senate was not in favor of that restriction and had it removed.

Ms. Fleischman asked if the Governor's bill to eliminate the quota system would affect our petition. Mr. Reed was not sure if it would hold up other bills like the one the Town submitted.

Ms. Fedele made a motion to amend the Home Rule Petition for Additional On-Premise Alcohol Licenses and accept the language that was presented to them tonight. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

16-120 Energy Task Force – Proposed Electricity Purchase Aggregation

Energy Task Force members Suzy Enos and Mark Mullins explained the process of implementing a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program. This would allow the Town to consolidate residential and commercial retail electricity for cheaper and cleaner sources of energy on behalf of the residents and businesses. CCA resulted in an average savings last year of six percent for participants in Massachusetts.

Residents on the basic service will be automatically enrolled in the CCA program and can move in and out of the program at their own discretion without penalty.

The Town has two options to begin the CCA process. The Town can choose to sign on to the current Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) request for quotes (RFQ) process for a broker or the Town can choose to issue their own RFQ for a broker. Six member municipalities of the MAPC have signed on to use the same broker. That broker would enter into a contract with each individual municipality.

Regardless of which RFQ process is selected, the chosen broker would negotiate with energy suppliers to solicit a few different options. Those options could utilize a variety of different electricity suppliers such as wind farms, solar farms, coal fire and nuclear energy. The options would then be explained to the residents at a public workshop. The Selectmen would make the ultimate decision on what option to choose.

Town Meeting voted to approve CCA in 1998 but it was not implemented because of a lack of interest and the market for electricity was not as good as it is now.

The Energy Task Force reported that the residents generally seem to be in favor of this program.

The Selectmen requested that the Energy Task Force research what other communities have done in regards to choosing a broker. The Selectmen also wanted to see what the results were of the MAPC RFQ process.

Ms. Fleischman moved that the Selectmen authorize the Town to move forward with Community Choice Aggregation and authorize the Energy Task Force to continue public outreach and make a recommendation as to whether to use the broker chosen through the MAPC once that information is available. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

16-121 Fire Station Study Presentation

CDR Maguire conducted the Fire Station Feasibility Study. A renovation of the fire station was completed in 1998. The study looked at the short and long term needs of the department. The existing fire station is located on a small congested site that does not allow all vehicles to deploy from the front and rear of the building. There is also insufficient parking. The actual station is too small for current and future needs. The apparatus and support spaces are too narrow and not long or tall enough. There is a lack of storage and proper work spaces.

Architect Fabrizio Caruso presented three options for the Selectmen to consider. The first option would renovate and expand the existing fire station. The second option would tear down the existing fire station and entirely new one would be built on the same site. Both of these options cannot remedy the site issues. A drive through station will not be achieved and parking will remain an issue. The Fire Department will need to be temporarily relocated with both of these options.

The third option would be building a new station at a different location. An acre and half of land would be needed to build a fire station that could meet current and future demands. To keep the same response time for most of the Town the new location would have to be within a certain geographical area in the center of Town.

Mr. Rosenberg asked if building a substation would relieve some of the issues. Fire Chief Grunes stated that this option was considered but it was ultimately decided that it was not the best options and the substation would have to be staffed and have its own ambulance and truck.

Mr. Moonan asked about the urgency of this and whether there is a need to do this right now. Facilities Director Taissir Alani responded that the heating system and roof would need to be replaced in the next few years so it would make sense to do it as part of a larger process if options 1 and 2 were chosen.

The Selectmen decided to look into the third option further to see if there is suitable land available. If not, then the Selectmen would have to consider one of the other options.

16-122 Police Station Study Presentation

Donham and Sweeney conducted a feasibility study on the Police Study to determine current and long term needs. There is a shortage of space in the men and women's locker rooms, training room, evidence processing room, fitness room, gear storage, armory and detectives offices. A total of 18,781 square feet is necessary to meet future demand. The existing space is 14,700 square feet. The Historical Society is located in part of the building.

Donham and Sweeney President Jeffery Shaw presented four options for consideration. All the options expand the training room, roll call room, locker rooms and evidence room.

The first option would put an addition on the current building and would have the historical society remain. It also eliminates a fitness room. The second option would have everything the first option does in regards to increased square footage but it would have the historical society

move out and would move the emergency generator outside. This option allows for there to be a gym on site.

The third option increases the square footage to 16,750. The historical society would be moved out and the emergency generator would remain inside. It would also increase the size of the armory.

The fourth option would increase the square footage to 17,750. The historical society would move out, additions would be built and the emergency generator would be moved outside. This option would decrease the number of holding cells as the Town may join a county lock up facility with other communities.

Mr. Rosenberg inquired whether the Selectmen should consider building a joint police and fire station since the Town will already be looking for land for the fire station. Mr. Shaw stated that this has been done in many communities.

This project has been included in the six year plan but Police Chief Bongiorno stated the department can function as is for a while.

Chief Bongiorno thanked Mr. Shaw and Mr. Alani for all their work.

16-123 Proposal for Pilot Expansion of Local Transit

Economic Development Coordinator Alyssa Sandoval presented a pilot proposal for an expanded local transportation program. The program would cover the gap in late afternoon and evening service that the current Bedford Local Transit does not provide. The program would be geared more towards residents than commuters. The program is proposed to run for 10 months and would begin in September of 2016. It will start out as an on demand service to better understand where fixed routes could be established. The estimated cost for the program is \$83,000 and it will be included in the FY17 budget. The Town can apply for a grant through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Community Transit Grant Program. The cost of each ride will be \$2.00.

Ms. Fedele emphasized the importance of good advertisement ahead of time. She suggested starting publicizing before the summer of 2016.

16-124 Proposed Inter-Municipal Agreement – Towns of Lexington and Bedford Animal Control Officer

Over the past year there has been discussion between the Towns of Bedford and Lexington about sharing an animal control officer. This would benefit each municipality as neither municipality has a full-time officer that is available Monday through Friday. It also makes sense since the two towns share an animal shelter on Westview Street in Lexington. Bedford's current Animal Control Officer will be shared between the towns. He currently works 20 hours and is benefits eligible so it would not be a significant financial change for the Town. Lexington will supply the vehicle and Bedford will supply the gas. Bedford will bill Lexington for their share and that money will be set aside in the OPEB trust fund for his retirement.

The Towns can opt out on an annual basis and Bedford's Animal Control officer will go back to working 20 hours a week. Otherwise the agreement will be reviewed annually on or before May 1st.

Ms. Fleischman moved that the Selectmen approve the Inter-Municipal Agreement between the Towns of Bedford and Lexington for a joint Animal Control Officer. Mr. Moonan seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

16-125 Campus Police Officer Memorandum of Agreement with Middlesex Community College – Renewal

The renewal of this Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and Middlesex Community College (MCC) will be retroactively effective on July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017. The program is in effect and is very successful. The officer works Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Ms. Fleischman asked if there is a need for an officer to work nights. Chief Bongiorno stated that MCC might be requesting another officer for a night position.

Mr. Moonan made a motion to authorize the Town Manager and Police Chief to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of Bedford and Middlesex Community College for a Campus Police Officer for a term ending June 30, 2017. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

16-126 2016 License Renewals

Mr. Moonan asked what happened with Café Luigi. Staff informed him that they did not submit their renewal paperwork which was a condition of keeping their license due to non-use.

Ms. Fedele moved that the Selectmen approve the list of 2016 License Renewals as presented in the December 7, 2015 agenda item #16-126 subject to the issuance of a Certificate of Inspection by the Building Inspector for the Flatbread Company, The Melting Pot, Asiana Bistro, Firebox and Chipotle Mexican Grill and with the exception of the Common Victualers license for Ungion, LLC dba Prince Street Café because of outstanding FY15 personal property taxes. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

16-128 Minutes – Regular Session Minutes – November 16, 2015

Ms. Fleischman moved to approve the Regular Session Minutes of November 16, 2015 as amended. Mr. Rosenberg seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

16-129 Town Manager's Report

Mr. Reed did not have anything to report.

16-130 Open Discussion and Selectmen Liaison Reports

Mr. Rosenberg reported that the Arbor Resources Committee and Department of Public Works is developing a proposal to submit to the Community Preservation Committee for funds to install an irrigation system on the Jenks Trails to help newly planted trees survive.

Mr. Moonan attended the last Finance Committee meeting and reported they are putting together the guideline for FY17.

Mr. Moonan also stated that he does plan to run for re-election at the Annual Town Election in March.

Chair Siegenthaler attended the Fiscal Planning and Coordinating Committee meeting and stated that the Lane School Feasibility study will be completed before Town Meeting and will require a debt exclusion. This will eliminate the need for modulars.

Chair Siegenthaler added that he also attended the Finance Committee meeting and reported that that Town can expect a two and a half percent increase for the FY17 guideline and the Schools can expect a three and a half percent increase.

Mr. Rosenberg made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Fleischman seconded the motion.

The motion passed 5-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.